

Appl. No. 09/865,995
Amendment dated January 12, 2006
Reply to Office action of July 12, 2005

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response to Office Action is responsive to an Office action dated July 12, 2005 setting forth a shortened statutory period for reply expiring on October 12, 2005. A Petition for a three-month Extension of Time is enclosed.

In brief review, claims 1-47 were pending in the application with claims 1, 24, and 25 being independent claims. The Examiner rejected claims 34, 36 as having informalities; and rejected claims 24, 34, 36 and 47 as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. Section 112.

By this Amendment, claim 24 has been amended. Reconsideration of the application and claims is respectfully requested.

RESPONSE TO CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner objected to claims 34 and 36 because the claims depend on canceled claim 25. However, it is believed that 25 has not been cancelled. Accordingly, it is requested that this objection be withdrawn.

RESPONSE TO INDEFINITENESS REJECTION

Claims 24, 34, 36 and 47 were rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

As to claim 24, claim 24 was rejected as indefinite for lacking antecedent basis for the limitation "said valve." Claim 24 has been amended to recite "said first throttling device" in place of "said valve" and accordingly claim 24 is believed to overcome this rejection.

As to claims 34, 36 and 47 these claims depend variously from claim 25. Since it is believed that 25 has not been cancelled, it is requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above, the pending claims 1-47 are believed to be allowable.

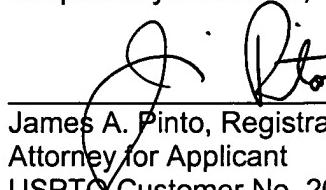
The Applicant believes no further fees or petitions are required with this Amendment other than the extension fee submitted herewith. However, if any petitions or fees are necessary, please consider this a request therefor and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 accordingly.

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If the Examiner should require any additional information regarding this Amendment, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: January 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


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